## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hironobu MACHIDA et al.

Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR INPUTTING

ENCRYPTION KEY SETTING

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: 02/27/2004

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

## TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

## RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the foreign-language documents is described in the present specification. English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are provided herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted

Date February 27, 2004

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	INFORMATIO	N DISCLO	SURE	Application Number	Unassigned 10787361	
	STATEMENT	BY APPLI	CANT	Filing Date	02/27/2004	
	Date Submitted:	February 3	27 2004	First Named Inventor	Hironobu MACHIDA	
		•		Group Art Unit	Unassigned 2625	
	(use as many sh	eets as ne	cessary)	Examiner Name	Unassigned Marcus T. Riley	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	036741-0130	

Examiner Initials*  Cite No.1  Number Kind Code (r/ Announ)  Number Code (r/ Announ)  Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document  MM-DD-YYYY  Date of Publication of Cited Document  MM-DD-YYYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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/M.H./	A1	JP	10-63621	l A	HITACHI LTD.	03-06-1998		Abstract
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		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	_
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